Prime Travel and Non-Medical Attendant Entitlements

TRICARE Management Activity

April, 2002

Prime Travel Benefit

- **Section 758, FY01 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA):**
  - **Payments started February 15, 2002.**
  - **Benefit goes back to October 30, 2000.**
- **Non-active duty TRICARE Prime members (all those OTHER THAN ACTIVE DUTY, that is active duty families, retirees, retiree families and others) will be paid for actual travel expenses (up to the government rate) when sent by their Primary Care Manager (PCM) for medically necessary specialty care more than 100 miles from the PCM's location.**

Prime Travel Benefit

- If you are sent **more than 100 miles** from your PCM location to see a specialist **AND:**
  - You have a Military PCM…
    - **Contact the MTF to get travel orders.**
    - ***This must be done prior to leaving for the appointment.***
  - You have a civilian network PCM…
    - **Contact the Lead Agent Office in the region where you live to get travel orders.**
    - ***This must be done prior to leaving for the appointment.***
- Ask for the Patient Travel Representative or the Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance

Prime Travel Benefit

- **It is important that you have travel orders prior to leaving for your appointment.**
- **Covered Costs (up to the government rate): Actual travel expenses, lodging, and meals.**
- **Keep receipts for all costs that are more than $75.00.**
- **To file for reimbursement your must have:**
  - **A completed Standard Form 1164.**
  - **Travel orders.**
  - **Receipts for costs over $75.00.**

Prime Travel Benefit-Overseas

- **Active duty family members residing overseas with their sponsor:**
  - **Already have a travel benefit under the Joint Federal Travel Regulation.**
    - **The Prime travel benefit does not apply.**

NOTE: ***For travel purposes, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the other U.S. territories are considered OCONUS.***

Prime Travel Benefit-Overseas

- **Active duty family member residing overseas without their sponsor (for example, the sponsor is assigned somewhere else):**
  - **The Prime travel benefit applies as long as:**
    - **The family member is enrolled in TRICARE Overseas Prime AND**
    - **Is referred for medically necessary specialty care over 100 miles from their PCMs office.**

NOTE: ***For travel purposes, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the other U.S. territories are considered OCONUS.***

Prime Travel Benefit-Overseas

- **Retirees and family members residing overseas:**

  – The Prime travel benefit applies as long as…

  - **They are enrolled in TRICARE Overseas Prime.**
  - **Are referred by their PCM for necessary specialty care over 100 miles from their PCMs location**

NOTE: ***For travel purposes, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the other U.S. territories are considered OCONUS.***

Non-Medical Attendant (NMA)

- **Section 706, FY02 NDAA**
  - **Benefit was officially started April 1, 2002.**
  - **Goes back to Dec 28, 2001.**

Non-Medical Attendant (NMA)

- **Allows one NMA to go with a non-active duty Prime enrollee when the patient travels for medically necessary specialty care more than 100 miles from the patient's PCM's location; the traveling Prime patient may be a child or an adult.**
  - **The NMA must be a parent, guardian, or another adult family member of the traveling Prime patient:**
    - **If the NMA is the parent or designated guardian, he/she is not required to be 21 or older.**
    - **If the NMA is an adult family member, the NMA must be 21 or older.**

Non-Medical Attendant (NMA)

- **The Prime patient's PCM decides if an NMA is necessary and appropriate.**
- **The traveling patient must be enrolled in TRICARE Prime; the NMA is not required to be in TRICARE Prime or to be TRICARE eligible.**
- **The traveling Prime patient's MTF or Lead Agent Office will issue travel orders for the NMA.**
- **Travel authorization and orders must be obtained for the patient and NMA before traveling to the specialty appointment.**

Non-Medical Attendant (NMA)

- **If the NMA is Active Duty or a DoD civilian employee:**
  - **He/she is repaid for travel expenses based on temporary duty (TDY) rates (per diem and mileage).**
  - **Claims for repayment are filed on the DD Form 1351-2.**

Non-Medical Attendant (NMA)

- **If the NMA is a civilian not affiliated or employed by DoD:**
  - **He/she will be reimbursed for actual travel expenses up to the government rate.**
  - **Claims for repayment are filed on an SF 1164.**
- **When filing for reimbursement, original travel orders and receipts for all items costing over $75.00 are required.**

Prime Travel Benefit and NMA Questions

- If you are Prime and enrolled to an **MTF, contact the Patient Travel Representative** or Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator (BCAC) at the MTF where you are enrolled.

- If you are Prime and enrolled to a civilian provider outside the MTF, contact the **Lead Agent Patient Travel Representative** or BCAC in the TRICARE region where you are enrolled.

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